



Resolutions Passed at the 32nd Annual Meeting of Wheat Pool Delegates

November 6th to 16th
1956

COMMITTEE PROGRAM
No. 3

Dec., 1956

The principle of co-operation draws the whole community together. It breaks down barriers. It unites the State . . . and it strengthens the great moral ideal of duty, without which no State can endure.

—Earl Grey.

ISSUED BY
SASKATCHEWAN
WHEAT POOL
REGINA, SASK.

POOL DELEGATES MEETING

FOR two weeks every year 166 Saskatchewan Wheat Pool delegates assemble in Regina to consider the operation and the policies of their organization. They represent about 130,000 shareholders. Because they dig down deep into the facts and figures of the various branches, because much of what they have to say bears on the more or less intimate details of the housekeeping job of such a large organization, the meeting is a closed meeting just as similar meetings for other organizations are closed meetings. This could not be otherwise but in a way it is a pity.

It is unfortunate because the sessions present a concentrated two-weeks course in the agricultural affairs of the country unlike any other that we know of. The fortunate thing about it is that, while it would be impossible to throw it open to anyone and everybody, the representatives are there and they will soon be returning to all parts of the country to report on what transpired.

The people who sent representatives to the meeting may be proud. They may be proud for a number of reasons. They may be proud of the efficient and businesslike way their representatives deal with the mass of business facing them; they may be proud for the way in which their representatives speak their minds, listen to the other fellow and then cast their vote for what they think is in the best interests of those they represent.

They may be proud for the dignity with which their representatives comport themselves, while at the same time allowing nothing to stand in the way of free expression of opinion and the free determination of future operational and policy matters of their organization. Praiseworthy also are their decisions which, almost without exception, are wise and well considered and designed to work in the best interests of their constituents and the country.

Over the years the solidity with which these men have carried out their duties has had its effect. One has only to sit and listen to the proceedings for a day or two to discover that much of the agricultural policy now in effect in this country stemmed from ideas generated and formulated at annual Pool meetings in the years gone by. One has only to look at the calibre and position of the men who are sent to address the Pool delegates to appreciate the respect these men have earned for themselves and the influence they bring to bear in the affairs of the country. They are not always in agreement with those who face them; long periods of serious and probing questioning often follow the addresses of ministers of the crown, civil servants and others; the delegates are not backward in making their opinions felt by their guests and yet all this is done in a manner calculated to show respect for the individual and to send him away with the feeling that regardless of whether they are in agreement or not, here is a group worth listening to.

The job that delegates and their directors take on is not an easy one and there must be many occasions during which the man regrets the responsibility he has shouldered. However, although it means an arduous two weeks of work, the annual meeting must be inspiring to them and must bring a measure of reward through the intangible things we have just mentioned here. The delegates have done a good job in a dignified and efficient way and the people at home should know that.—Western Producer, November 22nd, 1956.

FUTURE POLICY

1. The Future Policy of the organization, as amended and approved by the 32nd Annual Meeting of Delegates, is as follows:

(1) Agricultural Prices

(a) THAT agricultural produce

are entitled to an adequate price for their products, whether sold on domestic or export markets.

(b) THAT if agricultural production is sold for less than a price which would return to producers a fair share of the national income, deficiency payments should be made by the Treasury of Canada.

(c) THAT such deficiency payments should be available from the Treasury of Canada when price supports and other marketing machinery and techniques have failed to provide an adequate price to primary producers.

(2) The Canadian Wheat Board

(a) Full support of The Canadian Wheat Board in a program for the orderly marketing of all Western grown grains, including flax and rye, and the elimination of the use of the speculative market in connection therewith.

(b) THAT the initial payment to be made by The Canadian Wheat Board for the crop year 1957-58 should be not less than the present initial payments of \$1.40 per bushel basis 1 northern for wheat; 65c per bushel basis 2 C.W. for oats; and 98c per bushel basis 1 and 2 C.W. 6-row for barley; basis Lakehead; and that an announcement to this effect should be made in the near future.

(3) Domestic Price for Wheat

THAT the domestic price of wheat in Canada should be based on production costs and Canadian living standards, rather than on the price obtainable in the export market.

(4) Wheat Board Payments

THAT an interim payment on wheat delivered to The Canadian Wheat Board

during the crop season 1955-56 should be made at the earliest possible date.

(5) Sales Policy for Canadian Grain

THAT the Government of Canada should take all possible steps to develop trade arrangements involving increased imports of industrial goods from those countries which require substantial quantities of our agricultural products, and thus broaden the sales field available to The Canadian Wheat Board.

(6) International Food Bank

THAT we recommend to the Government of Canada that they support renewed efforts through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, for the establishment of an International Food Bank.

(7) National Agricultural Policy

THAT we urge upon the Federal Government the adoption of a national agricultural policy which would provide for:

(a) An adequate scheme of crop insurance, the cost to be borne jointly by the Dominion and Provincial Governments and the producers.

(b) The greatest possible use of the Agricultural Prices Support Act as a means of maintaining adequate floor prices of those farm commodities to which the Act applies.

(c) The making of deficiency payments by the Treasury of Canada when price supports and other marketing machinery and techniques have failed to provide an adequate price to primary producers.

(d) Increased co-ordination of the Dominion and Provincial Government programs for the maximum use of our soil and water resources, to the end that producers may be assured adequate returns to enable them to improve their farms, diversify their p

duction and plan their crops and rotations on a long-term basis.

(8) Cash Advances on Farm Stored Grain

(a) That cash advances should be made by elevator companies operating under a special line of credit, guaranteed by the Federal Department of Finance at the lowest possible interest rate.

(b) That elevator companies should be prepared to assume responsibility for a share of any loss which might develop in the repayment of such advances.

(c) That the amount of the advances should be based on a rate of \$4.00 per specified acre, with a maximum of 800 acres.

(9) Box Car Distribution

THAT we continue to urge the need for amendments to the Canada Grain Act to provide for the placing of box cars at country elevators in accordance with the farmer's preference, so that farmers may be able to deliver to the country elevator of their choice.

(10) Livestock

THAT we continue to urge the need for a Board of Livestock Commissioners to administer the Livestock and Livestock Products Act and to regulate trade practices where necessary.

(11) Marketing Boards

THAT producers' marketing boards under provincial and federal legislation can provide a practical method of marketing farm commodities other than grain. At the same time it is realized with respect to livestock, that best results can be secured through the operations of a national marketing scheme, rather than provincial one.

(12) Allocation of Surplus Earnings

THAT the recommendation of the Board of Directors concerning the allocation of surplus earnings, Season 1955-1956, as set out in the Directors' Report as follows:

Excess Charges Refund, Season 1955-1956	\$3,526,937.50
Provision for Income Tax— Estimated	530,000.00
Transfer to Reserve Account	517,635.57
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	\$4,574,573.07

be approved; and further

THAT the share of surplus for the year ended 31st July, 1956, allocated to Excess Charges Refund, Season 1955-1956, and amounting to \$3,526,937.50, be distributed in proportion to patronage on all grain, including rapeseed and livestock be delivered by the members of the Company during the year ended 31st July, 1956, on the following bases:

Grain

- (a) Patronage dividend at the rate of 1c per bushel, to be paid in cash, dividend estimated\$1,563,400.00
- (b) Patronage dividend at the rate of 1 3/16c per bushel to be used for the purchase at face value of Elevator and Commercial Reserve Deductions of the Company from members in eligible categories as previously determined by the Board of Directors such Deductions to be credited to the persons entitled to the patronage dividend, provided that those members entitled to such dividend, whose Elevator and Commercial Reserve Deductions have heretofore been purchased by the Company shall be paid their share of such amount in cash, dividend estimated 1,856,537.50

Livestock

- (c) Patronage dividend at the rate per head for cattle 56c; calves 23c; and hogs, sheep and lambs 14c; to be retained as a loan from the shareholders of the Company, in accordance with

the Articles of Association, provided that those members entitled to such dividend, whose Elevator and Commercial Reserve Deductions have heretofore been purchased by the Company, shall be paid their share of such amount in cash,	
dividend estimated	107,000.00
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	\$3,526,937.50
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(13)

THAT when the retained patronage dividend on livestock deliveries has accumulated to the sum of \$5.00 or over, the full amount of the dividend should be paid out in cash.

(14) Country Elevator Division

(a) That elevator handling charges should be raised to bring them in line with the increased cost of handling grain.

(b) That the cleaner installation program should be extended.

(c) That the hundredweight system of measuring grain be adopted.

(d) That consideration be given to an over-all plan of consolidating the country elevator system.

(15) Terminal Elevator Division

(a) That the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool acquire additional terminal space at the Lakehead.

(b) That the Federal Government be asked to build additional space and that the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool try to lease and operate same.

(16) Vegetable Oil Division

That we recommend to the Board of Directors that they continue to investigate the buying, selling and processing of rapeseed, with a view to undertaking the marketing of rapeseed on behalf of Pool members and report to the delegates

prior to the holding of committee conventions.

(17) Livestock Division

(a) That the Board of Directors arrange for an education campaign to encourage the marketing of livestock through public markets.

(b) That the present floor price on hogs be maintained.

(18) Printing and Publishing Division

(a) That an investigation be made of the operation of The Western Producer.

(b) That the twelve-point objective of The Western Producer, as outlined by the Manager, be maintained and continued and that a copy be supplied to delegates and Wheat Pool Committees.

(19) Publicity

That the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, through The Western Producer, point out the disadvantages of the practice of "bootlegging" grain by using other men's permit books.

(20) Agricultural Prices

(a) That failing a favourable reception by the Federal Government to our proposals for deficiency payment program and domestic wheat price policy, that this organization sponsor and organize a mass delegation to interview the Government and press for the adoption of those principles as part of national policy.

(b) That we go on record as opposing the acceptance of any lower prices than are now being paid, for the fast disposal of present surpluses of grain.

(c) That the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool act in close co-operation with the

Saskatchewan Farmers' Union in endeavoring to secure fairer prices for agricultural produce.

(21) Wheat Pool Committees

(a) That local committees' remuneration be increased to \$36.00, to be applicable to the delegates' year ending 30th November, 1956.

(b) That two members be appointed from each local Wheat Pool Committee to deal with livestock problems, such members to meet periodically within the district and sub-district, and report information back to their respective committees.

(22) The Canadian Wheat Board

(a) That we endorse the policy of The Canadian Wheat Board and the International Wheat Agreement in maintaining orderly marketing and price stabilization.

(b) That we continue our efforts to have The Canadian Wheat Board permanently established as the sole marketing agency for all grains produced in Western Canada.

(c) That The Canadian Wheat Board be asked to allow all cultivated land seeded to grass to be included in the permit book as specified acreage.

(d) That we ask for the continuation of the policy of delivering a limited quantity of wheat, over the quota limit, in exchange for government inspected seed, and the extension of this exchange to include legumes and grass seed.

(e) That we ask that the regulations governing permit books be changed so that farmers' sons, who start farming on their own, either on their fathers' land or other land, be given permit books.

(f) That The Canadian Wheat Board be asked for a higher percent-

age of shipping orders for the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool.

(g) That when shipping orders are being allotted, preference should be given to points where there is not space to take the unit quota, rather than points where the unit quota has been delivered and an acreage quota opened.

(23) Board of Grain Commissioners

That we recommend that the Assistant Commissioners of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, in Saskatchewan, be urged to act with more promptness in investigations of violations of the Canada Grain Act.

(24) Transport Controller

That the Federal Government be requested to appoint a Transport Controller to assume office on 1st January, 1957.

(25) Box Car Allocation

(a) That the Wheat Pool organization continue to fight for a more equitable distribution of box cars at delivery points, by all possible means.

(b) That agents of elevator companies be required to file all shipping orders held by them with the railway agent at their station.

(c) That regulations be established and enforced whereby railway agents shall supply box cars to elevators in proportion to the orders held by each agent at the point.

(d) That railway companies be required to supply more cars for the movement of grain and have them placed, where possible, at low quota stations.

(26) Railway Companies

(a) That we urge the Federal Government to nationalize and operate the Canadian Pacific Railway in the interest of all Canada.

(b) That we strongly oppose any move to increase freight rates in connection with the transportation of farm products.

(c) That we continue to press for the maintenance of the statutory rates under the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement.

(d) That we oppose by all possible means the request for demurrage charges by the railway companies at the terminals.

(e) Whereas there are certain unfinished railway lines in the province, thus working an injustice on many farmers;

Be is resolved that we ask the railway companies to complete such lines in Saskatchewan as soon as possible.

(f) That efforts be made to obtain running rights for the Canadian Pacific Railway over the Canadian National Railway line to Port Churchill, at rates comparable to those in force on the Canadian National Railway.

(27) Farm Credit

That some credit policy be evolved to provide long term loans at lowest possible interest rates, to farmers, to enable them to maintain their operations in difficult times.

(28) Credit Unions

That the Federal Government be requested to provide legislation which will permit Credit Unions to loan money on the security of farm stored grain with the same protection and privileges as the chartered banks.

(29) Income Tax

(a) That the Federal Government be asked to raise the personal income tax exemption for married couples to \$3,500.00 and for single persons to \$2,000.00 per year.

(b) That the Federal Government be asked to allow farmers to claim depreciation at the rate of 10% on grain storage bins.

(30) Farm Fuel

That we ask for the removal of the Education and Hospitalization tax on farm fuel.

(31) P.F.A.A.

(a) That we endeavour to have the maximum payment raised to \$1,000.00 with the 1% levy remaining the same.

(b) Whereas a township with an average yield of wheat of 4-8 bushels per acre is eligible for payment under the P.F.A.A. at the rate of \$1.50 per acre, but often within such a township there is a block of sections where the yield is under 4 bushels per acre;

Be it resolved that we ask the P.F.A.A. be amended so as to provide that payments in eligible township may be varied in blocks.

(32) S.F.A.

That the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture be urged to invite the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union to renew its membership in the Federation.

(33) University of Saskatchewan

(a) That a grant of \$10,000.00 be made to the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan.

(b) That in cases where students holding first-year Bursaries are not proceeding to the second year in the School of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan, that the second-year Bursaries be made available to other second-year students who may be qualified.

(34) Agricultural Research

That we promote and intensify re

Research into the industrial use of wheat and other grains, through the National Research Council.

(35) Weed Control

That the proper authorities be approached with regard to the necessity for weed control on rights-of-way and road allowances by spraying and back sloping to allow tillage.

(36) Wild Life

That we ask the Saskatchewan Government Insurance office to extend the cut-off date for insurance against damage by water fowl and other forms of wild life.

(37) Weather Forecasts

WHEREAS some areas in Saskatchewan are inadequately served by weather forecasts for surrounding regions having weather totally unrelated to any of these:

BE IT RESOLVED that we ask that more regions be established.

(38) Colombo Plan

WHEREAS the Canadian Government is increasing its contribution to the Colombo Plan;

BE IT RESOLVED that we recommend that the Government be asked to make a larger percentage of this contribution in the form of wheat.

(39) St. Lawrence Seaway

WHEREAS the cost of construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway will be borne by the people of Canada and the United States;

BE IT RESOLVED that we strongly urge that when the seaway is completed all boats, whether foreign or otherwise, be given the same rights in the navigation of the waterway.

